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is essentially a new book rather than a second edition of that formerly noted.<sup>3</sup>

Beginning with a sketch of the history of the botanical exploration of New Zealand, and noting the landmarks in her botanical literature, the author instructs the reader regarding the fundamental concepts of plant ecology in clear and simple terms, preparing him to follow appreciatively the description of New Zealand plants, not only considered as individuals, but as grouped in communities. Separate chapters are devoted to the vegetation of the sea coast, the inland waters, the mountains, and the outlying islands, as well as to the forests, the scrub, and the grasslands. The descriptions are so good that not only may they be understood by the New Zealand school boy (for it is an authorized textbook in the public schools), but they may also serve to furnish a graphic picture of a unique vegetation to the ecologists of other lands. For the latter the separation of New Zealand into botanical districts and the analysis of the flora into its different elements is particularly interesting. Moreover, the botanist is not at a loss to know what plants are intended by their common designations, for the scientific names always follow. In this, as well as in the use of many excellent illustrations, the volume may well be regarded as showing a standard of excellence seldom attained.—GEO. D. FULLER.

#### MINOR NOTICES

**Cactaceae.**—The second volume of the elaborate monograph of Cactaceae by BRITTON and ROSE<sup>4</sup> has just appeared. In fullness of description and wealth of illustration it leaves nothing to be desired. The colored plates are particularly noteworthy. The volume includes two of the eight subtribes of Cereae. In subtribe Cereaneae, 38 genera are recognized, including 16 new genera as follows: *Monvillea*, *Espostoa*, *Browningia*, *Stelsonia*, *Corryocactus*, *Erdisia*, *Leocereus*, *Dendrocereus*, *Machaerocereus*, *Brachycereus*, *Jasminocereus*, *Binghamia*, *Arrojadoa*, *Facheiroa*, *Zehnterella*, and *Neoraimondia*. There are also described 40 new species distributed among the various genera. The subtribe Hylocereanae includes nine genera, *Wilmattea*, *Mediocactus*, and *Deamia* being new, and 48 species, 6 of which are new. The monograph is an impressive illustration of the extensiveness of the cactus flora and its need of taxonomic reconstruction.—J.M.C.

**Flora of Jamaica.**—The fourth volume of FAWCETT and RENDLE's *Flora of Jamaica*<sup>5</sup> continues the Dicotyledons, which began in the third volume,

<sup>3</sup> BOT. GAZ. 52: 159. 1911.

<sup>4</sup> BRITTON, N. L., and ROSE, J. N., The Cactaceae. Vol. II. Publ. Carnegie Inst. no. 248. pp. vii+239. pls. 40. figs. 305. 1920.

<sup>5</sup> FAWCETT, W., and RENDLE, A. B., Flora of Jamaica, containing descriptions of the flowering plants known from the island. Vol. IV. Dicotyledons (Leguminosae to Callitrichaceae). 8vo. xv+369. figs. 114. Published by the British Museum. 1920.

published in 1914.<sup>6</sup> The volume includes 13 families, much the largest ones being Leguminosae and Euphorbiaceae, with 50 and 30 native genera respectively, the remaining 11 families being represented by 34 genera. The contrast with north temperate floras is striking in the relative display of the various genera. For example, in the range of GRAY'S *Manual*, 11 native genera and 40 species of Euphorbiaceae are recorded, while in Jamaica this family is represented by 34 native genera and 111 species.—J.M.C.

**Honey plants.**—PELLETT<sup>7</sup> has listed alphabetically under their common names all plants known to contribute to the honey supply of the country. Simple descriptions and many rather good illustrations from photographs will enable the bee keeper to recognize the species in his particular locality, while scientific names insure accuracy. Some attention is also given to plants affording an abundant pollen supply. The volume should prove useful to the bee keeper, and interesting to the botanist or ecologist.—GEO. D. FULLER

#### NOTES FOR STUDENTS

**Taxonomic notes.**—DRUMMOND and HUTCHINSON<sup>8</sup> have disintegrated the genus *Isopyrum* as ordinarily presented, separating from it 6 genera, *Asteropyrum* and *Paraquilegia* being described as new. The other separated genera are *Leptopyrum* Reichb., *Enemion* Raf., *Semiaquilegia* Makino, and *Souliea* Franch. There are 12 species retained in *Isopyrum*, one of which is new. This involves much shifting of nomenclature. For example, our common *Isopyrum biternatum* becomes *Enemion biternatum* Raf.

MOORE,<sup>9</sup> in continuation of his studies of the African flora, has described new genera in Erythroxylaceae (*Umbellulanthus*) and Icacinaceae (*Monocephalum*). In addition, 11 new species are described in these families and in Olacaceae.

WILDEMAN<sup>10</sup> has presented the African species of *Rinorea* (Violaceae), with full analytical keys and distribution, recognizing 106 species, 19 of which are described as new.

MOORE<sup>11</sup> has described the following new genera: *Homaliopsis* (Flacourtiaceae) and *Vaughania* (Leguminosae) from Madagascar, and *Hulemacanthus* (Acanthaceae) from Papua.

<sup>6</sup> BOT. GAZ. 59:334. 1915.

<sup>7</sup> PELLETT, F. C., American honey plants. 8vo. pp. 287. figs. 152. 1920. Hamilton, Ill. American Bee Journal.

<sup>8</sup> DRUMMOND, J. R., and HUTCHINSON, J., A revision of *Isopyrum* (Ranunculaceae) and its nearer allies. Kew Bull. 1920: no. 5. pp. 145-169.

<sup>9</sup> MOORE, SPENCER LE M., *Alabastra diversa*. XXXIII. 3. Miscellanea Africana. Jour. Botany 58:219-226. 1920.

<sup>10</sup> WILDEMAN, E. DE, Notes sur le genre *Rinorea* Aubl. Bull. Jard. Bot. Bruxelles. 6:131-194. 1920.

<sup>11</sup> MOORE, SPENCER LE M., *Alabastra diversa*. XXXIII. 1. Plantarum Mascarenisium pugillus. 2. Acanthaceae Papuanæ. Jour. Botany 58:187-195. 1920.